



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Each Department/District Head

At the Budget Deliberations held June 26, 2006, the Board took the following action:

7

The following item was called up for consideration:

Order such revisions, additions, and changes to the Chief Administrative Officer's budget recommendations as deemed necessary.

The Board took various actions as indicated below and ordered such revisions, additions, and changes to the Chief Administrative Officer's budget recommendations as deemed necessary.

7.1

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

"The Department of Parks and Recreation's trails crew is responsible for trail maintenance throughout the County, including removal of overgrown vegetation, fallen trees and tree limbs, illegal dumping, and eroded and washed out trail sections and fire roads. Proper maintenance is essential to prevent hazardous conditions for hikers, bikers and equestrians, but also to maintain access for fire personnel and equipment to extinguish brush fires. Currently, the trails crews consist of only 13 positions. Expanding the trails crew section would allow the Department to deal with existing issues on the 144 miles of developed County trails and cut the more than 200 miles of dedicated trails that have yet to be developed."

(Continued on Page 2)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.1 (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to identify funds to expand the Department of Parks and Recreation's trails section to meet the need; and to report back to the Board during a meeting in September when the 2006-07 Supplemental Budget will be discussed.

7.2

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Molina:

"The Sheriff's Department's staffing audit has identified 58 Sheriff's Deputies who are currently performing the duties of Law Enforcement Technicians (LET) who would otherwise be deployed to unincorporated patrol functions. Utilizing LETs to replace these 58 Deputies is not only sound fiscal management but would also vitally impact our goal in reducing the vacancies in the unincorporated areas and the use of overtime to fill basic patrols. The Sheriff's Department is committed to deploying these 58 Sheriff's Deputies to unincorporated patrol functions.

"The Chief Administrative Officer has already identified \$2.2 million for 40 of the 58 LETs in the FY 06-07 budget.

"We therefore recommend that the Board:

1. Approve the \$2.2 million allocation from the Appropriation for Contingency Ongoing Funds for the 40 additional Law Enforcement Technicians (LET) to the Sheriff's Department;
2. Approve a \$1 million allocation from the Non-Departmental Special Accounts for the 18 additional LETs to the Sheriff's Department;
3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of the Human Resources Department to assist and expedite the Sheriff's recruitment and hiring of the LETs;

(Continued on Page 3)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.2 (Continued)

4. Request the Sheriff to provide the Board with the deployment plan for the 58 Sheriff's Deputies to unincorporated communities once the LET positions have been filled; and
5. Encourage the Sheriff to continue their staffing audit and report back to the Board with an update before book closing in September."

David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, requested the Board to consider changing the \$1 million allocation from Non-Departmental Special Accounts to the Designation for Unincorporated Area Patrols.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Approved the \$2.2 million allocation from the Appropriation for Contingency ongoing funds for the 40 additional Law Enforcement Technicians (LET) to the Sheriff's Department;
2. Approved a \$1 million allocation from the Non-Departmental Special Accounts for the 18 additional LETs to the Sheriff's Department;
3. Directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Personnel to assist and expedite the Sheriff's recruitment and hiring of the LETs;
4. Requested the Sheriff to provide the Board with the deployment plan for the 58 Sheriff's Deputies to unincorporated communities once the LET positions have been filled; and
5. Encouraged the Sheriff to continue their staffing audit and report back to the Board with an update before book closing in September.

(Continued on Page 4)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.3

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Molina and Burke:

“The Child Care Training Institute is a program administered by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). LACOE has contracted with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services to implement the Child Care Training Institute (CCTI) which provides services to strengthen child care service quality by improving the skills of licensed and license-exempt providers on a wide range of topics, such as health and safety, children’s activities, marketing your business, understanding legal rights and responsibilities, and communicating with parents.

“Classes/workshops are organized at different venues Countywide, such as community centers, schools, community colleges, LACOE locations, and Alternative Payment Provider child care agencies. Classes, workshops and materials are free to Child Care Providers and are targeted to increase the availability of quality childcare in areas of the County where there is a high concentration of families receiving CalWORKs. CCTI also provides start-up packages which include educational and child care supplies to training participants.

“From July through December 2005, 1,176 Child Care Providers attended CCTI classes and workshops. Since the program’s May 1, 1999 inception, 24,713 providers have attended CCTI classes and workshops. The Child Care Training Institute contract has been funded with CalWORKs Performance Incentive dollars that will no longer be available after June 30, 2006. To preserve this training, the CAO and DPSS have identified County General Fund savings within the Fiscal Year 2005-06 DPSS budget that could be earmarked to provide funding to the Los Angeles County Office of Education to sustain CCTI throughout Fiscal Year 2006-07.”

(Continued on Page 5)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.3 (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Molina, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Allocated \$600,000 from the projected fund balance carryover savings in the Department of Public Social Services to provide funding for the Child Care Training Institute (CCTI) program;
2. Delegated to the Director of Public Social Services the authority to extend the contract with the County Office of Education for the CCTI for one year from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007;
3. Delegated authority to the Director of Public Social Services to prepare and sign amendments to the contract, not to exceed ten percent of the total contract amount, when the increase is necessitated by additional and necessary services that are required for the Contractor to comply with changes in Federal, State, or County requirements; and
4. Requested the Director of Public Social Services and the Superintendent of Schools to submit quarterly reports to the Board on the outcomes of the program, including the number of providers who receive CCTI services.

7.4

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina:

“Our Public Private Partnerships (PPP) are critical to the delivery of primary care health services for the Department of Health Services’ patients and Los Angeles County residents Countywide. Despite steep rises in health care costs and patient load, the last rate increase for PPP provider contracts was in January 2001 - over five years ago.

(Continued on Page 6)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.4 (Continued)

“Although both the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Proposed Budget and Final Changes provide an 8% rate increase for PPP contracts, this adjustment does not adequately begin to address the actual cost per visit. Based on data from the Medicare Market Basket, the rate increase should be adjusted to 12% for the PPP providers. The Chief Administrative Office has one-time savings in the Provisional Financing Uses budget which can be used to bridge the funding gap between the Department of Health Services’ request and the Chief Administrative Officer’s recommended increase, while the Department further develops its deficit management plan, including the need to find ongoing funding for appropriate increases in the PPP program.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$1,989,000 in one-time funds from the Provisional Financing Uses budget to the Health Services Administration budget for rate increases for the Public Private Partnerships contracts.

In addition, Supervisor Antonovich requested the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board with the cost for providing a cost of living adjustment to the Department of Mental Health providers using the same Medicare Market Basket method as was used for the Department of Health Services’ Public Private Partnership contracts.

7.5

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Knabe and Yaroslavsky:

“The CalWORKs Youth Jobs Program has helped youth living in a CalWORKs household to learn and practice the skills needed to transition into a self-sufficient adulthood, through summer jobs. Last summer alone, over 3,300 teens throughout the County participated in the summer employment/paid work experience program and received basic skills training, employment readiness and career planning services.

(Continued on Page 7)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.5 (Continued)

“Originally funded by the Federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (SYETP), this program had been funded by CalWORKs Performance Incentive funds up until last summer, when the funding source ended. This Board, sensitive to the benefits of providing training and employment opportunities for at-risk and low income youth, directed the County to explore a means by which to continue the program.

“While efforts to identify a viable ongoing funding source for summer youth job programs continue, one-time funding has been identified within the County to sustain the Youth Jobs program in the current year, and expand the scope of the program to all at-risk, low income youth, not just those residing in a CalWORKs household.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Director of Community and Senior Services, in collaboration with the Director of Public Social Services, to develop a Summer Youth Jobs Program; and delegated authority to the Director of Community and Senior Services to enter into contracts with appropriate Youth Job providers including the seven Workforce Investment Boards, to sustain the Youth Jobs program during the Summer of 2006, following approval of the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel’s approval as to form.

7.6

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“The District Attorney’s code enforcement program was begun in 2005. This Program has proved to be highly effective and would be well served by the addition of three investigative teams which would be regionally deployed Countywide. These teams will improve the quality of life within our unincorporated County areas.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$1,949,629 from the Appropriation for Contingency to the 2006-07 District Attorney’s Budget for Phase II of the Code Enforcement Program.

(Continued on Page 8)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.7

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“The Elder Abuse Prevention Program is an essential component in the County’s efforts to eliminate the abuse and neglect of our elderly population. For the past several years, this program has allowed the Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS) to partner with the Department of Health Services (DHS) in order to assess the healthcare needs of the elderly, identify any abuse or neglect which may result in physical danger to senior citizens, and provide community outreach and training to increase the public’s awareness about this important issue.

“While this program is clearly a valuable tool toward combating elder abuse, budget difficulties at CSS have resulted in the reduction of funding for this important program. In keeping with this Board’s longtime commitment to caring for our elderly population, it is imperative that we restore funding to this program to its previous level so that CSS and DHS can continue their hard work in this area.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board allocated \$271,000 from the Appropriation for Contingency ongoing funds to the Department of Community and Senior Services for full restoration of the Elder Abuse Prevention Program which is co-located at the Department of Health Services; and delegated authority to the Director of Community and Senior Services to amend its MOU’s with the Department of Health Services in order to reflect the restoration of these funds.

In addition, the Directors of Community and Senior Services and Health Services were instructed to jointly report to the Board within 180 days with outcome measures and a comprehensive evaluation of the Elder Abuse Prevention Program/Elder Abuse Forensic Centers.

(Continued on Page 9)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.8

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Burke and Antonovich:

“The criminalists and forensic identification specialists working in the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department and the Coroner’s Office provide specialized services in an ever increasing technical and scientific field. The work product of these dedicated individuals often result in the solving of brutal and violent crimes such as murder and rape as they collect, analyze, and test evidence gathered at these crime scenes. Because these criminalists and forensic specialists receive targeted, on-the-job training once they are hired by their respective departments, it can take up to three years for an individual to become fully trained.

“Unfortunately, because of the disparity in the salaries paid by the County and other non-County agencies, which can range from a disparity amount of 3% to 40%, once these employees are fully trained, they are actively recruited and made offers from these other forensic and law enforcement agencies offering these higher salaries. As a result, the retention rate in the Sheriff’s Department and Coroner’s Office are dismal. Not only are we losing experienced and talented employees, but the time and expense invested in the training of these employees are lost.

“This retention issue becomes even more critical as the County and City of Los Angeles prepare to occupy the joint crime lab being constructed on the campus of California State University at Los Angeles.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Personnel to work in concert with the Sheriff to conduct a comprehensive examination and evaluation of the disparity in salary and employee benefits between County criminalists/forensic specialists and their respective counterparts at non-County law enforcement agencies.

(Continued on Page 10)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.8 (Continued)

In addition, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Personnel to jointly report back to the Board within 45 days with findings and recommendations. The report should include, but not be limited to, a detailed analysis of any discrepancy in salary and employee benefits for criminalists and forensic specialists; a cost benefit analysis of any classification or salary modifications; and the identification of funds needed to achieve any recommendations.

7.9

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes affecting individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds and businesses throughout. Last year alone, the Federal Trade Commission’s Identity Theft Clearinghouse identified 255,565 reported cases of identity theft --- 45,175 of those victims reside in California. The types of reported fraud range from credit card and wireless phone accounts to fraudulent receipt of loans and government entitlement programs. In many instances, victims of identity theft spend countless hours filing police reports, responding to collection agencies and contesting inaccurate credit reports for several years before they can substantially restore their own good credit.

“While identity theft is not a violent crime demanding immediate tangible response from law enforcement agencies, it is a serious crime which can cause undue financial harm, emotional distress and negatively impact someone’s health. Therefore, given the significant number of identity theft occurrences, it is imperative that the County of Los Angeles take a leadership role in combating this problem.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Director of Consumer Affairs, with oversight by the Chief Administrative Officer, to work in concert with the District Attorney’s Office to examine the feasibility of increasing resources toward the investigation and criminal prosecution of identity theft. The examination should include, but not be limited to, the creation of an identity theft investigation unit within the Department of Consumer Affairs or the District Attorney’s Office and the establishment of dedicated attorneys in the District Attorney’s Office to prosecute identity theft offenders.

(Continued on Page 11)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.9 (Continued)

In addition, the Board directed the Director of Consumer Affairs and the Chief Administrative Officer to jointly report back to the Board with their findings and recommendations prior the meeting in September when the 2006-07 Supplemental Budget will be discussed.

7.10

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“The unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles experience crime like any other area. Recently, other jurisdictions have invested heavily in high technology surveillance camera systems to combat crime in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Among technological devices which have been discussed recently as possible law enforcement tools against illegal gunshots and graffiti in the unincorporated areas are audio/visual cameras and microphones. It is my understanding that such equipment can be programmed to immediately locate the origin of gunshots, focus on that specific location and begin recording images that can later be used as part of a criminal investigation and prosecution.

“In addition to the evidentiary value of such equipment, if it is connected directly to law enforcement agencies it may also serve as a crime deterrent. While we may not have sufficient experience as of today to judge the actual effectiveness of such systems, we ought to work in concert with the Sheriff’s Department and the Office of Public Safety to explore the future use of such systems in unincorporated neighborhoods and parks.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Chief of the Office of Public Safety to work in concert with the Sheriff to assess the feasibility of utilizing high tech audio/visual equipment for the detection and recording of illegal gunshots and graffiti in the unincorporated areas of the County.

In addition, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board within 45 days, with findings and recommendations, including the identification of potential funding sources for a pilot program in unincorporated area(s).

(Continued on Page 12)

7.1 through 7.11 (Continued)

7.11

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“The arts play a central role in the quality of life for Los Angeles County residents. The arts are integral to youth education and skill development, diversity and cultural awareness, as well as the regional economy. Each year, to help achieve these outcomes, Los Angeles County supports more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations through the County Arts Commission’s Organizational Grant Program.

“Since the last funding increase in 2000, requests have dramatically outstripped available resources and the number of organizations receiving assistance for core operations and programs has increased by one-third. In addition, increases in the cost of living, coupled with low per capita State spending on the arts, have contributed to an increasingly challenging environment for our local nonprofit arts organizations. Additional funds will not only address these problems, but also allow the Arts Commission to phase in a process for two-year funding that will promote organizational stability and uninterrupted cultural services.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to transfer \$1,159,000 from the Appropriation for Contingency to the Arts Commission Budget for the Organizational Grant Program.

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Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor